IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

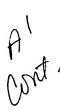
1. (original) In a controller, a method for putting an inactive net in a group communication network into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the net has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and causing the net to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the net has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

- 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the causing includes ordering each participating communication device in the net to release its air-traffic channel.
- (original) The method of claim 2 further including:
 maintaining sufficient connection for each participating communication device in
 the net for sending an out-of-dormant command.
- 4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein each participating communication device may ignore a go-dormant order.
- 5. (original) The method of claim 1, further including:
 causing a new communication device attempting to participate in the net to enter
 the dormant mode.
- 6. (original) The method of claim 1, further including:
 informing each participating communication device in the net that the net is put in the dormant mode.
- 7. (original) In a controller, a method for bringing a net in a group communication network out of a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a participating communication device in the net; and

bringing the net out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.



- 8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the bringing the net out of the dormant mode includes sending wake-up commands to participating communication devices in the net before bringing the net out of the dormant mode.
 - 9. (original) The method of claim 8, further including:

receiving responses to the wake-up commands from a number of participating communication devices in the net before bringing the net out of the dormant mode; and

bringing the net out of the dormant mode if the number exceeds a predetermined threshold number.

- 10. (original) The method of claim 9, further including: un-registering communication devices that fail to respond to the wake-up requests within a predetermined time period.
 - 11. (original) The method of claim 10, further including: re-registering a communication device that later asks to re-join the net.
- 12. (original) The method of claim 8, further including:

 bringing the net out of the dormant mode after a predetermined time period following sending the wake-up requests.
- 13. (original) The method of claim 7, further including:

 buffering information received from the participating communication device
 before bringing the net out of the dormant mode.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the receiving includes receiving the floor-control request from a push-to-talk (PTT) device.

15. (original) In a controller, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for putting an inactive net in a group communication network into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the net has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the net to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the net has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

16. (original) In a controller, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for bringing a net in a group communication network out of a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request from a participating communication device in the net; and

bringing the net out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

17. (original) A controller for bringing a net in a group communication network out of a dormant mode, comprising:

means for receiving a floor-control request from a communication device in the net; and

means for bringing the net out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

18. (original) A controller for putting a net in a group communication network into a dormant mode, comprising:

means for determining whether the net has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

means for causing the net to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the net has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

19. (original) A controller for putting an inactive net in a group communication network into a dormant mode, comprising:

a receiver to receive information over the network;



a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

determining whether the net has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and causing the net to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the net has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

20. (original) A controller for bringing a net in a group communication network out of a dormant mode, comprising:

a receiver to receive information over the network;

a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and

a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

receiving a floor-control request from a participating communication device in the net;

bringing the net out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.

21. (original) In a controller, a method for putting an inactive communication device in a group communication network into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period.

- 22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the causing includes ordering the communication device to release its air-traffic channel.
- 23. (original) The method of claim 22 further including:
 maintaining sufficient connection for the communication device for sending an out-of-dormant command.

and

24. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein the communication device may ignore a go-dormant order.

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25. (original) In a controller, a method for bringing a communication device in a group communication network out of a dormant mode, the method comprising:

receiving a floor-control request; and

bringing the communication device out of the dormant mode if the request is granted.